

**1950**

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# Annual Report

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OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

OF THE

Rural District

OF

Mitford and Launditch,  
Norfolk

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EAST DEREHAM :

PRINTED BY W. F. CHAMBERS AND SON, BOOKSELLERS AND STATIONERS, MARKET PLACE

**1951**



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## STAFF

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*Medical Officer of Health :*

A. B. GUILD, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.

*Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :*

W. H. EDWARDS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*Additional Sanitary Inspector :*

G. DAVIES

# MITFORD & LAUNDITCH RURAL DISTRICT

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## ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for 1950

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1950.

The estimated population of Mitford and Launditch Rural District was 17,830, being an increase of 260 over the preceding year.

### VITAL STATISTICS

257 live births, of which 9 were illegitimate, were registered during the year and there were 211 deaths from all causes.

The birth rate (14.41) has decreased by 3.29 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 1949 (17.7) and is lower than the birth rate for England and Wales (15.8). The birth rates for 1948 and 1947 were 16.05 and 20.3 respectively.

In addition 8 still births were registered.

The Registrar General introduces a new term in the vital statistics for 1950—the birth comparability factor—which for Mitford and Launditch Rural District is 1.24. This factor is the ratio of the national to the local fertility index.

211 deaths were registered during the year.

The death rate (11.27) was slightly higher than last year's rate (11.2) and is lower than the rate for England and Wales (11.6). The death rates for 1948 and 1947 were 12.12 and 11.2 respectively.



The infantile mortality rate (38·9) was appreciably higher than in 1949 (26·8), the England and Wales rate being 29·8.

The still birth rate (0·45) is slightly lower than last year's rate (0·53) and the England and Wales rate is 0·32.

42 fewer babies were born this year but there was no comparable decrease in the number of infants who died. There were 10 deaths of infants under one year of age, the causes of death being:—prematurity 1, birth injury 1, diseases of new born 2, acute enteritis 1, other infantile diseases 5.

Excluding the death due to acute enteritis in the infant, infectious diseases were responsible for the following deaths:—polio-encephalitis 2, influenza 1, and pneumonia 10.

There were 7 deaths from tuberculosis, 6 of which were respiratory and 1 non-respiratory, giving a mortality rate of 0·39, the rate for England and Wales being 0·36.

30 deaths were due to cancer in one form or another, an increase of 4 over the previous years.

The death comparability factor was 0·80, indicating that mortality in 1950 was 19% lower than in the base years 1947/1948.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

517 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year—a much larger number than in 1949 and the increase was due mainly to outbreaks of measles and whooping cough.

### MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

Measles, responsible for 354 notifications, was prevalent in the first half of the year, and whooping cough responsible for 58

notifications in the second half. These diseases had been prevalent throughout England and Wales in 1950 and as their incidence in this district had been low in 1949 it was not surprising to find that many of the susceptible children contracted these diseases. Probably the incidence of whooping cough was appreciably higher than the notifications indicate as quite a large number of children had a persistent cough and other suggestive symptoms but no whoop. The clinical diagnosis of whooping cough depends largely on hearing the characteristic whoop.

### SCARLET FEVER

This disease, with 27 notifications during the year, has shown an appreciable rise. Scarlet fever still remains a relatively mild disease and diagnosis is sometimes rendered difficult by the evanescent character of the rash; the typical scarlet fever rash is rarely seen now-a-days.

### PNEUMONIA

The incidence of pneumonia was low, 11 cases being notified. The winter and spring months could not be regarded as severe even allowing for the fact that rainfall in these months was consistently above the average.

Influenza, of which pneumonia is so frequently a complication, did not assume widespread proportions as it did in some other parts of the country and was a comparatively mild disease in this district.

The apparent discrepancy between the number of deaths (10) and the number of notifications (11) due to pneumonia is largely accounted for by the fact that broncho-pneumonia, which is not a notifiable disease, is included under the heading of pneumonia in the deaths statistics. Broncho-pneumonia was responsible for 6 deaths. The four remaining deaths from pneumonia were not notified and in two cases were accompanied by other conditions. Two of these 4 deaths occurred in hospital.

## INFECTIVE HEPATITIS

This disease was much less prevalent than last year, 33 cases as compared with 81. The majority of the cases came from the Elmham—Billingford area as shown in the following table by quarters of the year.

1st			2nd		
Elmham	...	6	Shipdham	...	1
Garveston	...	1			
Swanton Morley	...	1			
Gressenhall	...	2			
3rd			4th		
Elmham	...	1	Billingford	...	3
Billingford	...	10	Worthing	...	1
Worthing	...	2	Gressenhall	...	1
			Swanton Morley	...	3
			Litcham	...	1

## AMOEBC DYSENTERY

An outbreak of amoebic dysentery occurred at the R.A.F. Station at Swanton Morley in November and December. 20 cases of this disease were notified and in addition 22 personnel were found to be “carriers” of the causative organism.

Prompt investigations were carried out by the R.A.F. medical authorities as soon as the nature of the disease was recognised and it was ascertained that there was a fault in the sewerage system which contaminated the water supply.

In this outbreak the water supply appeared to be the mode of spread. This is a most exceptional manner as amoebic dysentery is normally spread by “carriers” who may have careless personal habits or through the agency of flies.

Although amoebic dysentery is common in many areas where troops served during the 2nd World War, it is not a common disease in this country: the bacillary type of the disease is that usually encountered.



The outbreak must have originated from a human "carrier" of the causative organism.

In view of the probable manner of spread it was not anticipated that any cases would occur in the local civilian population ; none have occurred.

A few cases continued to occur in the R.A.F. personnel until April, 1951.

### POLIOMYELITIS

4 cases of poliomyelitis and 2 cases of polio-encephalitis were notified during the year — one in February and the remaining five between 24th October and 11th November.

Of the last 5 cases, one occurred at Whinburgh and the other 4 in or near N. Elmham. Investigations failed to reveal any connection between the individual cases or any contact with any outside source of infection.

I regret I have to inform you that the two cases of polio-encephalitis died. There is some residual paralysis in two of the other cases.

### FOOD POISONING

7 cases of food poisoning were notified, none being severe in character.

In one group 4 members of the family were affected and *S. typhimurium* and *S. aureus* were isolated from the stools. Laboratory investigations of duck eggs and cow and goat milk failed to reveal the source of the infection.

In the 3 other cases, cockles, stewed duck which had been kept for two days, and pressed meat were suspected as the cause of the food poisoning but no proof was established.

Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1936, for securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in Connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air were adopted by the Council.

The pamphlet "The Customer's Health is in Your Hands," issued by the Central Council for Health Education was distributed to all businesses engaged in the preparation and handling of food.

The incidence of the notifiable diseases is given in the following tables, the first giving the total notifications with the corresponding figures for the preceding three years, and the second table giving the age distribution.

						Notification Rate per 1,000 population	
Disease	Total Cases				Admitted to Hospital	M & L	E & W
	1950	1949	1948	1947			
Scarlet fever ...	27	17	18	7	3	1·51	1·50
Measles ...	354	49	380	73	1	14·24	8·39
Whooping Cough ...	58	—	123	26	1	3·25	3·60
Pneumonia ...	11	24	13	15	1	0·62	0·70
Erysipelas ...	—	1	2	—	—	—	0·17
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	1	—	1	—	—	0·03
Infectious hepatitis ...	33	81	12	3	—	1·86	
Dysentery ...	20	2	—	—	—	1·12	
Puerperal pyrexia ...	1	1	—	1	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	6	—	2	4	—	0·34	0·18
Food poisoning ...	7	2	—	6	—	0·40	0·17
Diphtheria ...	—	3	—	1	—	—	0·02
Total	517	181	550	137	7		

In addition one case of Weil's disease was notified

Disease	AGE GROUPS													Total
	0—	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	
Scarlet fever	...	2	1	4	4	11	2	1	...	...	1	...	1	27
Measles	5	18	29	48	34	164	41	7	4	2	1	...	1	354
Whooping cough	3	8	9	7	5	24	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	58
Pneumonia	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	2	2	1	1	2	...	11
Infectious hepatitis	...	...	...	...	1	3	6	9	8	3	1	1	1	33
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	3	...	...	...	...	20
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Poliomyelitis & polio- encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	1	1	...	...	6
Food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	4	7
Total	8	28	41	59	44	203	52	38	20	9	5	3	7	517

## TUBERCULOSIS

During the year under review 26 cases were added to the register. 19 of these were new cases and 7 were inward transfers from other districts.

The comparative figures for the preceding three years were:—  
1949—20,      1948—21,      1947—20.

The distribution of the 26 cases by age and sex is given in the following table:—

Age Period	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	2 (a)	—	—
5—	—	5 (a)	2	1
15—	1	1	—	1
25—	2 (b)	2 (a)	1 (a)	—
35—	3 (a)	—	2	—
45—	—	—	—	—
55—	1	—	—	—
65—	2	—	—	—
Total	9	10	5	2

(a) denotes one inward transfer      (b) denotes two inward transfers

There were 7 deaths from tuberculosis, 6 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory, giving a mortality rate of 0·39 as compared with 0·41 in 1949. The rate for England and Wales was 0·36.

The numbers remaining on the register were :—

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Grand Total
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
31-12-49	27	21	48	27	21	48	96
31-12-50	26	26	52	26	19	45	97

The statistics for the County of Norfolk per 1,000 of the population in 1950 are given below with the data for Mitford and Launditch in brackets for purposes of comparison.

#### FORMAL NOTIFICATIONS

Respiratory	Case Rate	Non-Respiratory	Case Rate
232 (13)	0·64 (0·73)	91 (6)	0·25 (0·34)

The mortality figures for the same period are :—

Respiratory	Case Rate	Non-Respiratory	Case Rate
72 (6)	0·19 (0·34)	12 (1)	0·03 (0·06)

#### TUBERCULIN SURVEY

Mitford and Launditch R.D. and East Dereham U.D. were selected as one of the areas in Norfolk in which a tuberculin survey was carried out early in the year. The results of this survey have not yet been published, but 3 of the cases notified were diagnosed as a result of this survey, two being female respiratory and in the 5—15 age group, and the third a male in the 15—25 age group.

B.C.G. vaccination is now being carried out on cases selected by the Chest Physician.



## CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death are given in the following table supplied by the Registrar General.

Causes of Death				Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	5	1	6
Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	1	—	1
Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	2	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	4	4	8
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	1	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	8	8	16
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	...	2	—	2
Diabetes	...	...	...	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	19	10	29
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	7	14	21
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	3	3	6
Other heart disease	...	...	...	26	19	45
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	3	3	6
Influenza	...	...	...	—	1	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	8	2	10
Bronchitis	...	...	...	5	1	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	2	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	4	—	4
Other defined and ill defined diseases	...	...	...	8	14	22
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	3	—	3
All other accidents	...	...	...	3	—	3
Suicide	...	...	...	4	—	4
Homicide	...	...	...	1	—	1
All causes				120	91	211

## DEATH COMPARABILITY FACTOR

This factor is 0·81 and denotes that the mortality index in 1950 for Mitford and Launditch was 19% lower than in the base years, 1947/1948.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	102,371
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	17,107
Population (Estimated 1950)	...	...	...	17,830
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£47,374
Estimated Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£207

## MEDICAL STATISTICS

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, relating to the net births and deaths after correction for outward and inward transfers as furnished by the Registrar General.

		Males	Females	Total	Mitford & Launditch 1950	1949	England & Wales 1950
LIVE BIRTHS							
Legitimate	...	125	123	248			
Illegitimate	...	5	4	9			
Total	...	130	127	257			
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			...	...	14·41	17·7	15·8
STILL BIRTHS							
Legitimate	...	7	—	7			
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1			
Total	...	8	—	8			
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population		...	...	...	0·45	0·53	0·32
DEATHS (All ages)							
		Males	Females	Total			
		120	91	211			
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 resident population		...	...	...	11·27	11·2	11·6

INFANT DEATHS (Under 1 year)				Mitford & Launditch	England & Wales	
	Males	Females	Total	1950	1949	1950
Legitimate ...	6	2	8			
Illegitimate ...	2	—	2			
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	...	38.9	26.8	29.8

#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SCHEME

During the year immunisations carried out by general practitioners and by the Assistant County Medical Officer at schools after routine medical inspections were as follows :—

	Full Course		Reinforcing	Grand Total
Under 5	5-14	Total	All Ages	
186	226	412	428	840

The object of the campaign is to have at least 75% of the babies immunised before the end of the first year of life.

This target has not been reached in Mitford and Launditch, in fact only 38% of the babies born in 1947, 1948 and 1949 have been immunised.

It is much easier to reach the objective in a compact urban district than in a scattered rural district such as this where mothers may have to travel appreciable distances to and from the family doctor's surgery. Nevertheless every effort by all concerned is essential if the target is to be attained and the danger of young children contracting diphtheria avoided.

Immunisation sessions will be instituted at the village weighing centres which have been established in the district this year.

Sessions have been held at most of the schools in the district and the immunisation state of children of school age can, in general, be regarded as satisfactory.

There were again no cases of diphtheria. Three diphtheria carriers were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, Dereham, for treatment.

## VACCINATION

The vaccination state of children still remains very unsatisfactory. The modern technique of vaccination produces a minimum amount of scarring and upset to the baby—these facts are not yet appreciated by many young parents. Apart from this, what may be regarded as the apathetic attitude of many parents towards vaccination, appears to be the main reason why so few children are protected.

Vaccinations performed during the year were :—

	<u>Primary</u>			<u>Revaccination</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
Under 1	1-4	5-14	15 & over		
43	6	10	1	16	76

## HOUSING

The Rural Housing Survey was continued during the year and the progressive summary of inspections to the end of the year is as under :—

1	Satisfactory	...	588
2	Minor Repairs	...	382
3	Major Repairs	...	1521
4	Reconstruction	...	373
5	Demolition	...	776
6	Disused	... ..	128
Total			<u>3768</u>

The housing shortage still presents a very serious problem, and the number of applicants at 31st December, 1950, was 514, compared with 569 at 31st December, 1949.

The number of houses erected in 1950 was :—

(1)	By the Local Authority.	...	74
(2)	By other bodies or persons.	...	11



The houses were erected by the local authority at :—

Mattishall	...	6	Elsing ...	...	2
Tittleshall	...	8	Rougham	...	8
Gt. Dunham	...	8	Weasenhams	...	4
Colkirk	...	8	Hardingham	...	6
Lyng ...	...	6	N. Elmham	...	6
Whinburgh	..	6	Foxley ...	...	6

### MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

The appropriate action was taken under Part VII. of the above regulations in four cases where *brucella abortus* and one case where *tubercle bacillus* was found in milk on laboratory examination. The milk samples were collected by the County Milk Sampling Officer.

*Brucella abortus* in milk may give rise to a disease—undulant fever—in human beings. One case of this disease was admitted to the Isolation Hospital, E. Dereham, for treatment early in the year.

### NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

#### LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES UNDER PART III.

##### DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The Norfolk County Council's scheme has continued to work satisfactorily and on no occasion has it been impossible to provide a home help when required.

22 occasional home helps are now employed and some of these assist in households in E. Dereham as the requirements arise.

The service has become more popular and it is gratifying to receive unsolicited testimonials of their value.

61 households were provided with a home help during the year.

## MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

As in 1949 two Local Welfare Officers cover the Mitford and Launditch R.D. and East Dereham U.D. Mr. A. Boothman does the Major part of the area and has the Relieving Officers Certificate of the Poor Laws Examination Board (1936).

The Local Welfare Officers carry out the statutory supervision of ascertained mental defectives living in the community and also the supervision of mental defectives on licence or on leave at the request of the Superintendent of the M. D. Colony.

Similar supervision of mental patients on trial, on licence and on leave is carried out by arrangement with the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital.

The Local Welfare Officers have attended a refresher Course at the Mental Hospital in connection with their duties as Duly Authorised Officers.

Under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 18 cases were dealt with and after care work was carried out in respect of 11 patients discharged from the Mental Hospital.

Under the Mental Deficiency Acts one patient was ascertained and one was awaiting admission to an institution at the end of the year.

The classification of the defectives living in the community is as follows :—

Under statutory supervision	...	26
Under friendly supervision	...	5

Three mental defectives are receiving home training either by the Council's home teacher or by the British Red Cross Society.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

The Annual Report for 1949 mentioned the case of a widower aged 84, living alone, in which action had to be taken under Section 47 of this Act. This old man eventually died on 20th November, 1950.

No further cases occurred which necessitated compulsory removal for care and attention.

#### VILLAGE WEIGHING CENTRES

These were established at the following villages :—Beeston, Colkirk, Garveston, Gressenhall, Litcham, Mattishall, North Elmham, Scarning, Shipdham, Swanton Morley, Weasenhams and Whissonsett. It is hoped to open a centre at Lyng later.

The centres meet once monthly and, apart from the regular weighing of the infants, the District Nurse gives any advice required for the healthy upbringing of the infants and distributes such welfare foods as may be necessary.

In general the attendances have been good with the exception of the Gressenhall centre, which has now been closed, and Beeston and N. Elmham centres.

### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1938

#### PART I. OF THE ACT

##### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspection- ions	Number of written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
i. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	15	5	Nil
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	53	71	12	Nil
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	61	86	17	Nil

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	5	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)				
(a) insufficient	12	9	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	12	9	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	3	3	—	—
Other offences against the Act	—	—	—	—
Total	32	25	—	—

No prosecutions were instituted under the Acts

There is no Appointed Factory Doctor for Mitford & Launditch R.D. and the duties automatically fall on the Medical Officer of Health. During the year 69 juveniles were examined for fitness for employment in factories, 46 of whom were resident in Mitford and Launditch.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

**A. B. GUILD,**

*Medical Officer of Health*



## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

### for the Year 1950

---

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1950.

#### WATER SUPPLY

The prolonged drought of 1949 resulted in the necessity to continue the supply of water to 27 villages in the Area, and the carting of water to individual premises was still in progress at the end of the year.

Every effort was made to improve the quantity and quality of supplies.

Samples were taken from wells where pollution was suspected also where wells had been cleaned out and new bores constructed. These may be classified as under :—

Bacteriological Samples from Bores				...	Satisfactory	16
					Unsatisfactory	19
„	„	„	Wells	...	Satisfactory	8
					Unsatisfactory	54
„	„	„	River	...	Unsatisfactory	1
Chemical Samples from Bores				...	Satisfactory	2
„	„	„	Wells	...	Satisfactory	2
					Unsatisfactory	2
						<hr/>
Total						104

Where wells had become dry, the opportunity was taken to clean out and repair the brickwork, etc., deepen, and, in some cases bore. 122 visits were made regarding shortage or suspected pollution of supplies.

#### PIPED SUPPLY

There is no general public supply, but a piped supply is available to 26 houses in the parish of Scarning (on the outskirts of Dereham) from the Urban District Public Water Supply. 12 houses have the supply laid on inside the houses.

## PRIVATE MAINS SUPPLY

Piped supply from a bore on each site supplies the New Council Houses in the following parishes :—Mattishall, Elsing Sparham, Swanton Morley, Lyng, Brisley, Guist, Colkirk, Tittleshall, Weasenham, Rougham and Gt. Dunham.

The Council Houses at North Elmham are supplied from a private bore at Old Hall Farm, North Elmham.

Bacteriological samples have proved satisfactory.

## SEWERAGE

Sewerage disposal installations were constructed to serve the New Housing Sites as set out above.

In addition, the piped sewer at Bintree was extended to serve additional property and to take sewerage which previously had been causing a nuisance by discharge into an open ditch. 29 inspections were made of the sewerage installations and 48 inspections of open sewer ditches.

## SCAVENGING

A complete scheme for the collection of night soil, clearance of cesspools, and collection of house refuse was put into operation in 1949, the work being carried out by Edwin Clark, Ltd., Contractors, Aveley, Essex. The contract was renewed in June of this year for a further period of two years.

This scheme provides for the collection of night soil once weekly, clearance of cesspools twice yearly, and fortnightly collections of house refuse.

Disposal of night soil, and cesspool waste has been made by composting and spraying stubble fields prior to ploughing.

447 cesspools were emptied during the year. Some of these receptacles had not been serviced properly for many years, and in the majority the contents were heavy and required two loads to properly clear them. Three to seven loads from each new sewerage installations at Council House sites have been necessary to properly service the disposal works.

Disposal of house refuse is made by tipping into disused gravel pits. The proper control of these tips has presented difficulty, owing to inclement weather, and difficulty of obtaining soil for covering the tipping edge of the refuse. Special tip dressing for the control of flies is supplied by the Council and the tips are sprayed weekly during the months April to October inclusive.

The scheme is under the general supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors who promptly deal with complaints, and make inspections of the disposal sites. 126 visits and inspections were made during the year. It was found that 35 cesspools required repair or reconstruction; overflowing occurred frequently during the winter months, and was caused mainly through lack of proper effluent drainage.

#### RAT INFESTATION

Infestation of refuse disposal sites was undertaken by the Agricultural Executive Committee.

12 visits were made to investigate complaints of infestation at private property, and referred to the Agricultural Executive Committee.

#### REFUSE ACCUMULATIONS

18 accumulations of long standing were found and instructions given for the removal of these refuse heaps.

#### HOUSING

No. of inspections and reinspections of property under the Housing and Public Health Acts				186
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	74
Work completed	...	...	...	52
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	5
Completed	...	...	...	3
Undertakings not to relet accepted	...	...	...	5
Derelict cottages demolished	...	...	...	2
Inspections made <i>re</i> Building Licences	...	...	...	48
„ „ proposed Building Licences	...	...	...	32
„ „ „ Improvement Grants	...	...	...	7



## DRAINAGE AND SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

New drainage systems constructed	...	...	52
Visits to test new drainage systems including New Council House Sites	...	...	61
Drainage systems found to be defective or obsolete and reconstructed	...	...	34
Sanitary accommodation to Public Houses reconstructed and additions provided	...	...	3
Insanitary Privy Vaults converted to pails	...	...	7
Pail Closets converted to Water Carriage	...	...	19

## SEWER DITCHES

Inspections made	...	...	...	48
Ditches cleaned out	...	...	...	5

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Visits to catering establishments	...	...	29
Shops	...	...	15
Fish frying establishments	...	...	12
Fish frying mobile vans	...	...	4
Food preparing establishments	...	...	4
Ice cream retail premises	...	...	31
Bakehouses	...	...	15
Inspections of unfit tinned and other foods	...	...	8
498 lbs. of unfit foodstuffs were condemned during the year			

There are 9 cafes in the district and these are kept clean and personal hygiene observed. 14 public houses also cater for teas and snacks, and there are 6 social clubs with catering licences. Eight schools have modern kitchens and canteens for supplying school meals.

## ICE CREAM

There are 25 premises registered for the retail of wrapped ice cream. Modern refrigerators are installed and the product is supplied in sealed containers from manufacturers outside the area.



19 samples were submitted for cleanliness test with the following results :—

Grade 1	...	14
Grade 2	...	3
Grade 4	...	2

This shows a satisfactory standard of manufacture.

#### FOOD POISONING

7 visits were made to investigate suspected food poisoning. The persons affected were not seriously ill, and there were no fatal cases due to this cause.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disinfections	...	7
Poliomyelitis visits		6

#### VERMINOUS PREMISES

Inspections and disinfestation	...	8
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#### PETROL LICENCES

Your Sanitary Inspector is also Petroleum Officer to the Council and investigates all applications for the storage of petrol in the Area.

15 inspections were made for this purpose, and 12 new licences approved.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

**W. H. EDWARDS,**

*Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.*





